In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Previously Presented) A method of serving content in a packet-switched network comprising:

choosing from a plurality of content distribution networks which content distribution network will respond to a content request from a client;

redirecting the client to the chosen content distribution network so that the content request will be served by the chosen content distribution network, wherein

one of the plurality of content distribution networks is chosen only if a measured load of the one of the plurality of content distribution networks does not exceed a predetermined capacity reserved on the one of the plurality of content distribution networks.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the content distribution network is chosen based, at least partly, on a determination of which of the plurality of content distribution networks is closer to the client.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the content to be served by the chosen content distribution network comprises content embedded in a document to be served to the client and wherein redirecting the client to the chosen content distribution

network further comprises rewriting references to the embedded content before serving the document to the client.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the reference to the embedded content is rewritten to point to a server in the chosen content distribution network.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the reference to the embedded content is rewritten to point to a domain name served by the content distribution network.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the reference to the embedded content is rewritten so that an original reference may be readily parsed from a corresponding one of the rewritten references.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the chosen content distribution network utilizes the corresponding one of the rewritten references to obtain the embedded content if the chosen content distribution network does not have an up-to-date copy of the embedded content in a cache.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein redirecting the client to the chosen content distribution network further comprises resolving domain name system queries to content served by the chosen content distribution network.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising answering the domain name system queries with a network address of content served by the chosen content distribution network.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising answering the domain name system queries with a network address of a domain name system server responsible for the chosen content distribution network.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising answering domain name system queries with a domain name of content served by the chosen content distribution network.

15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising forwarding the domain name system queries to a domain name server responsible for the chosen content distribution network and which directly answers the domain name system queries.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the content distribution network serves the content request from a local cache and wherein the content distribution network has access to a second copy of the content if there is a cache miss.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the content distribution network includes a table of associations between references to content served by the content distribution network and references to a second copy of the content served from elsewhere in the network.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the content distribution network transforms references to content served by the content distribution network into second references to a second copy of the content served from elsewhere in the network.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Presented) The brokering domain name server of claim 22 wherein the

predetermined policy reflects a chosen content distribution network and redirection

mechanism for each of a plurality of regions of client network addresses.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Previously Presented) A brokering domain server comprising:

        a domain name system engine which is capable of answering domain name system

queries from a client; and

        a policy module which directs the domain name system engine to answer the domain

name system queries in accordance with a predetermined policy which resolves a domain

name to a server in a content distribution network chosen from a plurality of content

distribution networks, wherein:

        the policy module further comprises an interface to information received from the

plurality of content distribution networks and wherein the policy module modifies the

predetermined policy in response to the information, and

        the information further comprises load information and the predetermined policy

reflects capacity reserved on each of the plurality of content distribution networks.

23.   (Canceled)

24.   (Currently Amended) A method of redirecting content requests between content

distribution networks, comprising:

        receiving a request for a document which contains one or more embedded content

references;

retrieving the document;

choosing one ~~out~~ of a plurality of content distribution networks to serve the embedded content, <u>the one of the plurality of content distribution networks being chosen only if a measured load of the one of the plurality of content distribution networks does not exceed a predetermined capacity reserved on the one of the plurality of content distribution networks</u>;

rewriting the document so that the embedded content references point to content stored at the chosen content distribution network; and

transmitting the rewritten document.

25.   (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

means for choosing a content distribution network from a plurality of content distribution networks for responding to a content request from a client; and

means for redirecting the client to the chosen content distribution network so that the content request will be served by the chosen content distribution network, wherein

the means for choosing a content distribution network from a plurality of content distribution networks for responding to a content request from a client is configured to choose a content distribution network only if a measured load of the content distribution network does not exceed a predetermined capacity reserved on the content distribution network.

26.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein:

the content to be served by the chosen distribution network comprises content embedded in a document to be served to the client, and

the means for redirecting the client to the chosen content distribution network so that

the content request will be served by the chosen content distribution network further

comprises:

      means for rewriting references to the embedded content before serving the

document to the client.

27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising:

means for serving content from a local cache; and

means for serving content from a second copy of the content when the means for

serving content from a local cache experiences a cache miss.

28.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, further comprising:

means for transforming references to content served by the content distribution

network into second references to the second copy of the content served from elsewhere in

the network.